

## IN THE CLAIMS

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method of promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is P antigen from *P.anaerobius*, said method comprising:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with P antigen from *P.anaerobius*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds and eggs laid by the birds of antibody in the eggs to P antigen from *P.anaerobius*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the egg shells;

E. Drying said separated entire contents of said harvested eggs;

F. Distributing said dried entire contents of said harvested eggs substantially uniformly in animal feed or water to provide antibody-containing animal feed or water; and

G. Supplying the resulting dried entire contents of said harvested eggs and animal feed or water to food animals whereby the IgY immunoglobulins bind to the protein-wasting immunogens, ~~said binding being increased by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins~~ to inhibit adherence of the protein-wasting immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is CS antigen from *C.sticklandii*, said method comprising:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with CS antigen from *C.sticklandii*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds and eggs laid by the birds of antibody in the eggs to CS antigen from *C.sticklandii*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the egg shells;

E. Drying said separated entire contents of said harvested eggs;

F. Distributing said dried entire contents of said harvested eggs substantially uniformly in animal feed or water; and

G. Supplying the resulting dried entire contents of said harvested eggs and animal feed or water to food animals whereby the IgY immunoglobulins bind to the protein-wasting immunogens, said binding being increased by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins to inhibit adherence of the protein-wasting immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is CA antigen from *C.aminophilium*, said method comprising:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with CA antigen from *C.aminophilium*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds and eggs laid by the birds of antibody in the eggs to CA antigen from *C.aminophilium*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the egg shells;

E. Drying said separated entire contents of said harvested eggs;

F. Distributing said dried entire contents of said harvested eggs substantially uniformly in animal feed or water; and

G. Supplying the resulting dried entire contents of said harvested eggs and animal feed or water to food animals whereby the IgY immunoglobulins bind to the protein-wasting immunogens, said binding being increased by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins to inhibit adherence of the protein-wasting immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

17-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 14 including: providing a dry feed carrier material, drying said entire contents of said harvested eggs by coating the carrier material with said entire contents of said harvested eggs, distributing said carrier material coated with said entire contents of said harvested eggs in animal feed or water, and supplying the carrier material coated with said entire contents of said harvested eggs and animal feed or water to inhibit adherence of the immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 19 wherein: providing a dry feed carrier material from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 15 including: providing a dry feed carrier material, drying said entire contents of said harvested eggs by coating the carrier material with said entire contents of said harvested eggs, distributing said carrier material coated with said entire contents of said harvested eggs in animal feed or water, and supplying the carrier material coated with said entire contents of said harvested eggs and animal feed or water to inhibit adherence of the immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 21 wherein: providing a dry feed carrier material from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 16 including: providing a dry feed carrier material, drying said entire contents of said harvested eggs by coating the carrier material with said entire contents of said harvested eggs, distributing said carrier material coated with said

entire contents of said harvested eggs in animal feed or water, and supplying the carrier material coated with said entire contents of said harvested eggs and animal feed or water to inhibit adherence of the immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 23 wherein: providing a dry feed carrier material from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

25-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method of promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is P antigen from *P.anaerobius*, said method comprising:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with P antigen from *P.anaerobius*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds and eggs laid by the birds of antibody in the eggs to P antigen from *P.anaerobius*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the shells;

E. Providing a dry feed carrier material;

F. Coating said dry feed carrier material with the separated entire contents of said harvested eggs;

G. Distributing said carrier material coated with the entire contents of said harvested eggs substantially uniformly in animal feed; and

H. Supplying the resulting dry feed carrier material coated with the entire contents of said harvested eggs and animal feed to food animals whereby the IgY immunoglobulins bind to the protein-wasting immunogens, ~~said binding being increased by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins~~ to inhibit adherence of the immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

28. The method of Claim 27 wherein: providing a dry feed carrier material from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

29. (Currently Amended) A method of promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is CS antigen from *C.sticklandii*, said method comprising:

A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with CS antigen from *C.sticklandii*;

B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds and eggs laid by the birds of antibody in the eggs to CS antigen from *C.sticklandii*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;

D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the egg shells;

- E. Providing a dry feed carrier material;
- F. Coating said dry feed carrier material with the separated entire contents of the harvested eggs;
- G. Distributing said carrier material coated with the entire contents of the eggs substantially uniformly in animal feed; and
- H. Supplying the resulting dry feed carrier material coated with the entire contents of the eggs and animal feed to food animals whereby the IgY immunoglobulins bind to the protein-wasting immunogens, ~~said binding being increased by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins~~ to inhibit adherence of the immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 29 wherein: providing a dry feed carrier material from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled dried grains and beet pulp.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of promoting the growth of food animals by decreasing the waste of dietary protein caused by the presence of a protein-wasting immunogen in the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals by inhibiting the ability of the immunogen to adhere to the rumen or intestinal tracts of food animals to reduce the ability of the immunogen to multiply, said protein-wasting immunogen is CA antigen from *C.aminophilum*, said method comprising:

- A. Inoculating female birds, in or about to reach their egg laying age, with CA antigen from *C.aminophilum*;
- B. Allowing a period of time sufficient to permit the production in the birds and eggs laid by the birds of antibody in the eggs to CA antigen from *C.aminophilum*, said antibody in the eggs including IgY immunoglobulins in the yolks of the eggs and IgM and IgA

immunoglobulins in the albumin of the eggs;

- C. Harvesting the eggs laid by the birds;
- D. Separating the entire contents of said harvested eggs from the egg shells;
- E. Providing a dry feed carrier material;
- F. Coating said dry feed carrier material with the separated entire contents of

the harvested eggs;

G. Distributing said carrier material coated with the entire contents of the eggs substantially uniformly in animal feed; and

H. Supplying the resulting dry feed carrier material coated with the entire contents of said harvested eggs and animal feed to food animals whereby the IgY immunoglobulins bind to the protein-wasting immunogens, ~~said binding being increased by the IgM and IgA immunoglobulins~~ to inhibit adherence of the immunogen in the intestinal tracts of the animals thereby promoting the growth of the animals.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 31 wherein: providing a dry carrier from a group of materials including soybean hulls, rice hulls, corn, cottonseed hulls, distilled grains and beet pulp.

Cancel Claims 17 and 18 without prejudice.